

informal basis perhaps the Governors in the past have been cognizant of this kind of background experience, but we thought it would be beneficial to perhaps spell it out, and there is seven categories, there is seven commissioners, and I would hope that the body would not adopt this amendment that would, in effect, prohibit two of the current members from being considered for appointment, and to my knowledge, both of them have been very productive and helpful members.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Warner. Senator Witek.

SENATOR WITEK: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, Senator Warner, when this bill passes, within 45 days the Governor could reappoint or appoint new...an entire new commission, so there is no way to know how many people would be state employees on the commission. You talk about the two that are there now. It is possible that they could be staying there, and you say that they have good service. It is also possible that they could be replaced. So I would like to ask how many people on this floor even know who the commissioners are at the EEOC, and even know what their occupations are, and I would guess that many people do not know who the commissioners are and don't know what they do for a living. And there is really...you talk about safeguards, you know, it has to come through for legislative oversight; it doesn't necessarily state what their occupations are when we get to see who they are, and within the committee, itself, that is possible, and if a senator should want to ask, they can also do so, but very few of us do. No one has ever asked that I can remember, you know, people that we have appointed through my committee, in the Government Committee. It is not something I think that we have a whole lot of time to look into. It is not something that we spend a whole lot of time on is the appointment process. We seem to kind of go through and approve it, and there is nothing in this language that stops a governor from appointing every single member from the state employee pool. And, really, I guess if you look at these, the criteria, you'd have a state employee that would be able to have every...every single one of these areas broken down, I am sure, there including the at-large citizenry. I am sure every employee is also a member of the at-large citizenry. So there is nothing prohibiting the entire commission from being state employees, and my concern is not that those individuals would not do their job, but that there would be at least an appearance of the possibility of someone having a direct...if